



The Cleveland Museum of Art

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GREAT BRITISH FILMS AT THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

Bullseye! The Color Productions of The Archers, Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger

Selected Sundays and Wednesdays, January 14-March 20, 1995

Admission \$4, CMA members \$3.

Once derided as pretentious, tasteless, and kitschy, the flamboyant films of Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger are now regarded among the greatest glories of British cinema; perhaps only Hitchcock surpasses them in style and visual invention. In ***Bullseye! The Color Productions of The Archers, Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger***, a series running between January 14 and March 20, the Cleveland Museum of Art presents every color movie The Archers made between 1942 and 1957. Powell, a Brit, and Pressburger, a Hungarian emigré, teamed in 1942 to form the production company "The Archers," whose films opened with an arrow hitting a target. Lavish, imaginative, and colorful, with fantastic studio constructions and sumptuous location photography, The Archers' stellar achievements included such classics as *The Red Shoes*, *The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp*, *Black Narcissus*, *Tales of Hoffman*, and *A Matter of Life and Death* (*Stairway to Heaven* in the U.S.). All of the films will be presented in eye-popping new 35mm prints from the Champagne Piper-Heidsieck Classic Film Collection of the British Film Institute, doing full justice to the movies' ample visual delights. Film program coordinator John Ewing: "This series underscores our commitment to bring great movies to Cleveland in the best possible prints." Two influential films Michael Powell made without Pressburger will be shown as well, in a sidebar series titled **Powell Without Pressburger**. Another series, of the Archers' black-and-white works, will show in March at the Cleveland Cinematheque, tel. 421-7450.

Sun/14 Jan., 3:30 *Stairway to Heaven (A Matter of Life and Death)* (Britain, 1946, color/b&w, 104 min.) directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, with David Niven, Kim Hunter, and Raymond Massey. Unique fantasy in which a British airman, shot down during WWII, tries to convince a Heavenly tribunal that his death was a mistake. This movie placed #51 on the Museum's list of the best films of all time, and so just missed being shown last year.

Sun/21 Jan., 3:30 *Oh...Rosalinda!!* (Britain, 1955, color, 107 min.) directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, with Anton Walbrook, Michael Redgrave, and Anthony Quayle. Johann Strauss's operetta *Die Fledermaus* is transposed to postwar Vienna in this delightful, colorful, musical bonbon. Scope print!

Wed/31 Jan., 7:30 *Black Narcissus* (Britain, 1946, color, 99 min.) directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, with Deborah Kerr, David Farrar, and Sabu. Visually stunning account of adversity, sexual repression and hysteria among Anglican nuns in a remote Himalayan outpost. Includes scenes of Kerr's pre-convent life that were originally cut from U.S. prints! Oscar winner for Best Cinematography; based on a Rumer Godden story. "One of Britain's great cinematic masterpieces... Genuinely erotic." -*The Time Out Film Guide*.

More on reverse

Press Release

Wed/7 Feb., 7:00 *The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp* (Britain, 1943, color, 163 min.) directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, with Roger Livesey, Deborah Kerr, and Anton Walbrook. Fond look back at the life and career of a fictitious British military man, from the Boer War to WWII. "Marked by an enormous generosity of spirit: in the history of the British cinema there is nothing to touch it." -*Time Out Film Guide*.

Sun/11 Feb., 3:30 *The Red Shoes* (Britain, 1948, color, 133 min.) directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, with Anton Walbrook, Marius Goring, and Moira Shearer. Sumptuous fairy tale in which a young ballerina must choose between her art and her love for a struggling composer.

Sun/18 Feb., 3:30 *The Tales of Hoffman* (Britain, 1951, color, 127 min.) directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, with Moira Shearer, Robert Helpmann, and Leonide Massine. Three tales of unrequited love receive splendid treatment in this ambitious fusion of dance, music, and film based on Offenbach's fantasy operetta.

Wed/13 Mar., 7:30 *The Elusive Pimpernel* (Britain, 1950, color, 109 min.) directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, with David Niven, Margaret Leighton, and Jack Hawkins. A debonair Englishman rescues aristocrats from the guillotine in this elaborate yarn set during the French Revolution. Originally released in the U.S. in black and white!

Sun/17 Mar., 3:30 *Gone to Earth* (Britain, 1950, color, 111 min.) directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, with Jennifer Jones, David Farrar, and Cyril Cusack. Cut by 29 minutes and released in the U.S. as *The Wild Heart*, this visually seductive bodice-ripper tells of a 19th-century Welsh girl who's married to a minister but sexually attracted to a squire. "Haunting, dreamlike...Recalls that other fairy story of innocence and menace, *The Night of the Hunter*." -*Time Out Film Guide*.

Wed/20 Mar., 7:30 *The Battle of the River Plate* (*Pursuit of the Graf Spee*) (Britain, 1956, color, 119 min.) directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, with John Gregson, Anthony Quayle, and Peter Finch. The Archers' final production is a taut WWII thriller about the British pursuit of a German warship off the coast of South America.

Powell Without Pressburger

Two of Michael Powell's best known films were not made under the banner of "The Archers," although they rival the Archers' productions in color, imagination, and eccentricity. The fantasy classic *The Thief of Bagdad* preceded his collaboration with Emeric Pressburger; the controversial *Peeping Tom* followed it. Admission \$4, CMA members \$3.

Sun/4 Feb., 3:30 *The Thief of Bagdad* (Britain, 1940, color, 106 min.) directed by Michael Powell, Ludwig Berger, Tim Whelan, and Zoltan Korda, with Sabu, Conrad Veidt, and Rex Ingram. Colorful, magical, visually splendid Arabian nights fantasy in which a native boy, aided by a genie, outwits an evil wizard. Winner of three Academy Awards; music by Miklos Rozsa. *Kids 12 and under* \$2 (this show only).

Sun/25 Feb., 3:30 *Peeping Tom* (Britain, 1960, color, 109 min.) directed by Michael Powell, with Carl Boehm, Moira Shearer, and Anna Massey. Shocking, voyeuristic tale of a psychopathic killer—a cameraman—who films his victims. This darkly comic thriller, along with Hitchcock's *Psycho* (released in the same year), influenced a whole generation of young filmmakers. Uncut version; no one under 18 admitted.